

SGA executives chosen



Olivia Melton
Clerk
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Mathematics & Economics
Hometown: Decatur, Alabama



Shelby Scott
Secretary
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Psychology
Hometown: Tallahassee, Florida



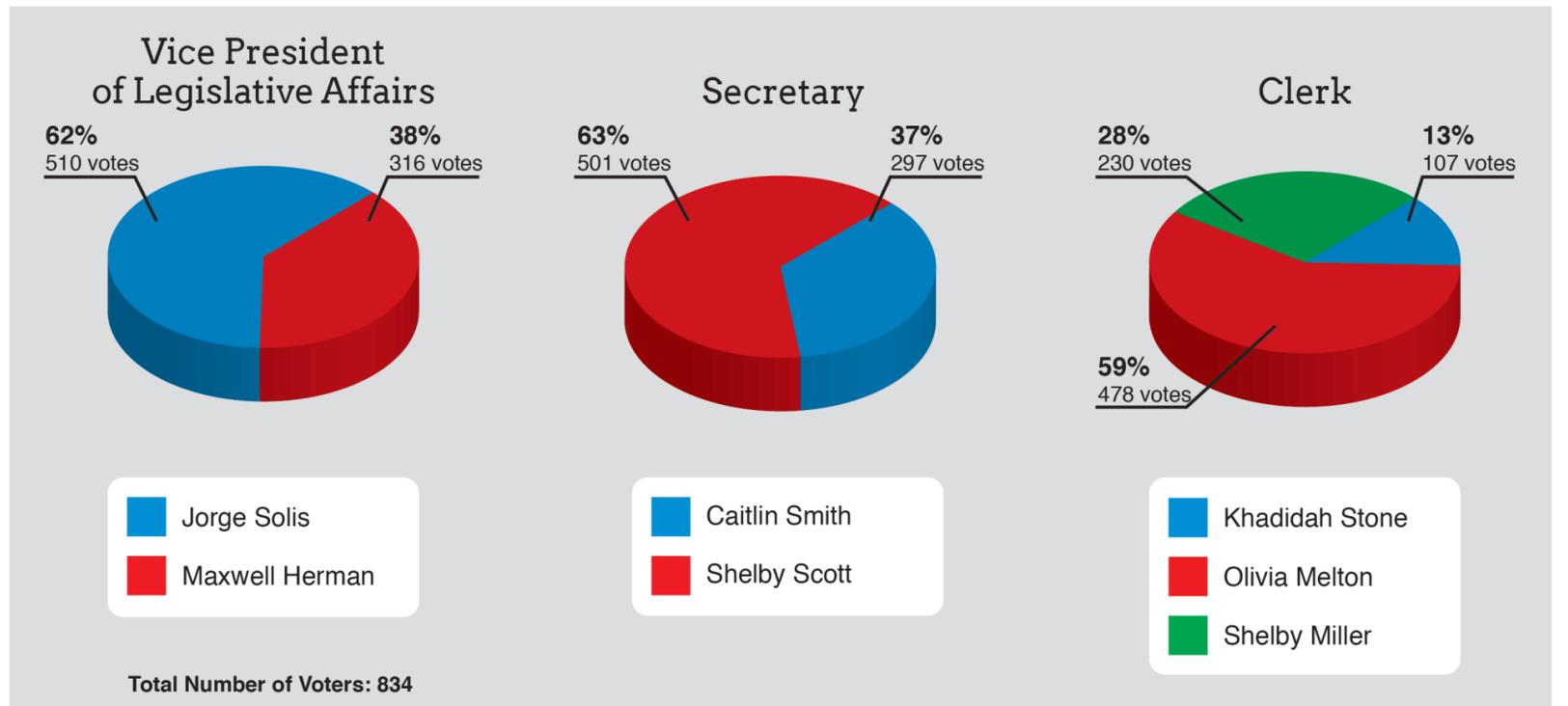
Heath Barton
President
Classification: Junior
Major: Economics
Hometown: Opp, Alabama



Patrick Rodgers
Vice President of Campus Activities
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Global business
Hometown: Dothan, Alabama



Jorge Solis
Vice President of Legislative Affairs
Classification: Junior
Major: Political science
Hometown: Pell City, Alabama



Kevin Glackmeyer photos, Taylor Bowser graphic

The results of yesterday's Student Government Association executive elections are above. Heath Barton ran unopposed for president. Patrick Rodgers ran unopposed for vice president of campus activities. There were 6,058 eligible voters, and 834 of them voted, about 14 percent. Not all voters voted in every category.

Meet the new SGA president New SGA officers

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

While ballots for SGA elections were cast yesterday, Heath Barton didn't have to worry, as his position was already secured after running unopposed for president.

Barton, a junior risk management insurance major from Opp, said that despite a lack of competition, he still would have been the best choice for the post, as his three main goals for the presidency aim to increase retention rates and help Troy "strive toward excellence."

In detail, his goals for the next year are accountability to administration, pride for Troy and success on and off the field.

"Our administration serves as the backbone for our entire student body," said Barton. "Our student body has a lot of good ideas, but our administration is the one that really



Heath Barton
pushes us and is able to accomplish those goals."

Barton said that he hopes to "hold our administration accountable to our dreams and our goals as a student body."

According to Barton, Troy's retention rate is lower than it should be.

"It doesn't give them that time to have the pride for Troy that they could have," Barton said of students choosing to transfer to other schools.

Barton wants to increase Trojan pride in all areas of campus involvement and through other improvements, in the hopes that retention

rates will go up.

"I know that every president says that, some to get the vote, but my goal this year is to truly be the voice," said Barton of his plans to improve campus, "and go through the administration to make sure that our voice is being heard to show that we are improving."

"Whether it be through academics, athletics or your social life, we want to make sure that you succeed. As a university as a whole, we should be striving toward excellence."

Barton said that after coming from a town with a population in the single thousands, known mainly for its location on a popular route to Florida beaches, he is excited both for his term to start and for the other doors

See **Barton**, page 2

The other winners in executive elections

Cassie Gibbs
News Editor

The Student Government Association executive board is composed of five positions: president, vice president of campus activities, vice president of legislative affairs, clerk, and secretary.

Heath Barton won the presidency. Here are the other winners of the 2015 executive elections:

Patrick Rodgers—VPCA

Rodgers, a sophomore global business major from Dothan, ran unopposed as vice president of campus affairs. His platforms were Unity, Activeness and Fairness.

Rodgers said that he hopes the SGA will help students develop more Trojan Pride.

He said that if "we can get the

See **SGA**, page 2



April Irvin photo

Troy University named an All-Steinway School. Full story, page 5.



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Barton

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that Troy has opened for him.

“Coming from a small town, I didn’t have a lot of opportunity,” he said. “Being able to come here and represent so much more than just Troy — I’m representing the students, the organizations, my town, my family. That’s been my goal since freshman year.”

As a freshman, Barton ran for Freshman Forum.

He moved up in the ranks from vice president of Freshman Forum to vice president of campus activities, and finally president.

“I just did all of these things to build myself up to run for president,” he said.

His year will be busy as he serves as president, delves into his major and prepares for a summer internship, as well as going on a mission trip to Africa before being flown either to the West or East Coast less than a week after returning.

As for the year in the student government, Barton hopes to see his goals become realities through the fostering of relationships on campus.

“To me, relationships are a really big thing,” he said. “I know it’s going to be impossible to form a relationship with every student on campus, but if that student is interested in having a relationship with SGA, then I am here for them. I am not just here to sit behind a desk. I’m here to be your friend and your fellow Trojan.”

“There’s so many things we want to do through SGA, and without our students we couldn’t accomplish them. I’m not somebody that is higher up than you. I’m still just as much a Trojan as you are.”

He also hopes to continue progress on the new recreation center and increase campus involvement in organizations.

“We have over 200 organizations on campus, and if there’s not one for you, create your own,” Barton said. “We love passing bills for new organiza-

tions. Being able to have all of these will encourage students to stay. That’s why I decided to stay — I got so involved my freshman and sophomore years.”

As he settles into his new office, Barton said that he is ready to take input from the campus and serve as a relay between the students’ wants and the administration’s ability to make those happen.

“I want students to see how much I do love Troy and being involved. I feel like if someone else is going to see my passion, then that will spark passion in them to love this university as much as I do.”

Barton said that he is looking forward to next year as SGA president.

“I am definitely humbled by the opportunity to be president for the next academic year,” Barton said. “I am looking forward to working with all the winners and those who didn’t win, I hope they continue to work with SGA or the judicial court, stay involved in some capacity.”

SGA

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students pumped up, to become involved and offer come cool things that the students will be happy about, then we can see both (apathetic students and more opportunities) of those numbers go up.”

Rodgers said that he is happy to serve in the SGA this next school year.

“I am thrilled to continue serving Troy and for everything in the future.”

Jorge Solis — VPLA

Solis, a junior political science major from Pell City, won a second term as vice president of legislative affairs.

Solis continued his platform from last year’s elections, which is maintaining relationships with the administration and to promote a more open student forum.

He said that in the next year, SGA will be tackling big projects for the students. “I definitely want to see more progress on the rec gym, especially toward planning,” Solis said. “Parking is another thing that we’re dealing with. Actually, Sorority Hill has already experienced a lot of improvement (with parking) over the past few weeks.”

On his re-election, Solis said that he is looking forward to the next year in SGA.

“I’m super excited to serve SGA in the

same capacity as last year.”

Shelby Scott — Secretary

Scott, a sophomore psychology major from Tallahassee, Florida, ran for the position of secretary.

Scott said that she had three main goals for her position: to build community between the university and the city of Troy, to build relationships between students, and to build pride in the school.

Scott said that she is ready to begin her duties as secretary this next school year.

“I’m really looking forward to serving Troy in a bigger and better way than I have before.”

Olivia Melton — Clerk

Melton, a sophomore mathematics and economics major from Orange Beach, ran for the position of clerk.

Melton’s platforms were Diversity, Communication and Trojan Pride.

She said that one way to create diversity in SGA is by bringing in more people from different groups to run for positions in elections.

“I would just really encourage different people representing different organizations to run,” Melton said.

She said that she is happy to serve SGA next year.

“I am honored to be able to serve the student body at Troy as SGA clerk.”

Soap prank could cost students

Josh Richards
Staff Writer

Soap in the fountain may be a student prank, but it’s costly to clean up, said Mark Salmon, director of Troy University’s physical plant.

“The damage to the fountain is not necessarily damage, so much as it is a nuisance,” Salmon said. “It’s a waste of time to have to go back in there and treat the water and clean the fountain.”

Salmon said that soaping the fountain may come at the expense of the students involved.

“I think that there’s an effort out there to create the expectation that when this happens the students are going to be responsible for the maintenance

and the upkeep of (the soaping).”

Salmon said that he believes that knowing the results of soaping the fountain can help students avoid possible penalties and consequences.

“What we’re hoping is that by creating awareness we can show that what seems to be a simple prank does have a price,” Salmon said. “The price is time and the price is money.”

The dollar cost of cleaning the fountain was not available from the physical plant.

This is not the first time that students have soaped the fountain.

To clean the fountain, “we have to do a little chemistry,” Salmon said. “We put a defoamer into

the water, which will revitalize the conditions that create the suds. Once that’s done, we have to go back in and make a determination of whether or not we’re going to have to drain the fountain.”

Salmon said that, in the past, not having such science available caused the soaping pranks to “shut down the fountain for a couple of days.”

“We’ve gotten a little more efficient now in terms of what we’re doing, so we can save a lot of time.”

“We hope that we can discourage those who do like to do these things from doing them,” he said. “That way we are able to stay on course to keep up with all the things we need to be doing on campus.”



April Irvin photo

The fountain on the main quad was filled with soap as a prank Friday.

Police called for dispute

Chase Robinson
Editor-in-chief

Cassie Gibbs
News Editor

An investigation is underway after a disagreement between a faculty member and a departmental secretary Thursday, Feb. 19, according to Earl Ingram, senior vice chancellor of academic affairs.

According to a university police report, an incident of harassment was reported in Smith Hall Room 274-A about 2:15 p.m.

The report describes the victim as a 36-year-old white woman.

Ingram was informed of the incident. According to Ingram, the faculty member and the departmental secretary had a “verbal disagreement.” The faculty member “refused to disengage” from the argument.

Ingram said that the secretary called the university police for assistance.

According to Ingram, after the police were called, the faculty member “disengaged” from the argument and left.

A department chair became aware of the situation afterwards, according to Ingram.

“I believe he was in class at the time,” Ingram said. “As his class was letting out, the teacher was walking down the hall, if I’m not mistaken.”

According to Ingram, department chairs are the first to mediate disputes

among faculty and staff in their departments.

“The chair ensures that everything goes back to equilibrium,” Ingram said.

Ingram said he was not aware of whether the departmental secretary was also part of mediation efforts.

Ingram said the university’s Human Resources Department is conducting the investigation.

Smith Hall Room 274-A is the location of English departmental secretary Melissa Scarbrough’s office.

Scarbrough declined to comment.

Stephen Cooper, chair of the English department, which is housed in Smith Hall, also declined to comment.

Several people said Noel Kaylor, a professor of English, knew about the incident, so the Tropolitan contacted him.

“As action against the other party in the ‘incident’ is pending, I have no comment,” Kaylor said in an email to the Trop sent the morning of Saturday, Feb. 21.

Kaylor sent another email two hours later.

“Any possible action against the other party of the ‘incident’ has been withdrawn,” Kaylor wrote. “Again, I have no comment. If others wish to comment, they may do so.”

Troy University Police Chief John McCall could not be reached for comment.



April Irvin photo

Sanjay Paswan, this year’s Global Chef, showcased Indian cuisine in Trojan Dining on Feb. 23-24. For the full story, visit tropnews.com.

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How SGA affects campus life



Alysa Nelson photo

Alysa Crow, a junior accounting major from Mount Vernon, Ohio, swipes IDs as students line up in the SGA office to vote.

Alysa Nelson
Features Editor

Students endured the rain yesterday to make it to voting for SGA, but what changes and effects on campus life were they voting for?

Usually, change begins with student complaints through surveys, meetings or going directly to the office to complain. The SGA then considers a solution to relevant problems and proposes these to administration.

“The thing is, our administration is located on campus but you never really see our administration as being the one that goes to the classrooms and the dorms and safety on campus,” said Heath Barton, a junior risk management insurance major and upcoming SGA president from Opp. “SGA is the voice of the entire student body on campus. We hear complaints and ideas, and we present them to the administration as a body.”

Matthew Thompson, a junior accounting major

from Montgomery, said he feels that SGA achieved many of the goals he set out to accomplish this past year as president.

Thompson said that, according to empirical data, this year has experienced the easiest parking experience after rezoning of the lots.

“This will only get better with the new hall parking opening up,” he said.

“When I am working with a new set of SGA officers and senators, I often tell them that sometimes the ideas that they have and the ideas that they work on may take place immediately, and sometimes it may be three or four years down the road before we see their ideas take place,” Barbara Patterson, director of student involvement, said. “For example, SGA has been pushing the university on Sorority Hill parking and begging for that to be done, and that is being done right now.”

Thompson said that SGA is currently discussing changing the dining hall

hours “to accommodate most normal people.” He noted that most students on campus are not eating dinner at 4:30 p.m. when the dining hall opens, but instead have jobs, practices or other responsibilities that keep them out far later than when it closes at 7 p.m.

“It’s not always that the university doesn’t want to do it; it’s that it doesn’t have the resources,” Patterson said of unaddressed student complaints and projects. “It has to be planned and budgeted for.”

Patterson mentioned the building of the new campus Recreation Center as an example of this.

Actively in the works, according to Thompson, is diversifying SGA itself and the voices that are heard.

Thompson said that historically SGA has been predominantly Greek, causing the majority of the campus to be underrepresented. SGA is now taking steps to move away from this toward representation that is more balanced.

At last week’s SGA meeting, an amendment passed making it mandatory that a seat in the Senate must be taken by an international student because internationals make up a large percentage of students on campus.

Thompson said that integration of a broader variety of students into the student governmental process has been what he is most proud of from his term as president.

“You’re not going to make everybody happy with every choice you make, but we need to make sure that the only groups being represented aren’t the one or two being loudest,” he said. “I really want the next SGA to keep a diversity mindset.”

Patterson said that of all the ideas proposed to administration, she would guess that about 70 percent of them become visible changes on campus.

“Of that 30 percent that doesn’t, sometimes it’s all about money and the university having the resources to do it,” she said. “Sometimes it’s something the university just can’t work on for some reason or the other.”

Barton said that his office will always be open to hear the opinions of the student body and begin the process of change.

Students recognized as women in leadership, attend conference

Tori Roper
Staff Writer

Leading Edge Institute is a weeklong conference in Montgomery in which three women from each university in the state are sent to learn about how women can thrive in leadership.

Shelby Scott, a sophomore psychology major from Tallahassee, Florida, had the opportunity to participate in the institute in 2014, and will be recognized on Feb. 22 for her graduation of the program in Birmingham.

Scott was asked by John Kline, the head of the Institute for Leadership Development, to attend the conference.

“It is a really cool program,” Scott said. The women who attend the conference learn about issues prevalent in Alabama by being informed on public issues, sitting in on the Alabama Supreme Court and talking to judges. They also get the opportunity to learn conflict management.

Jasmine Mack, a sophomore biomedical sciences major from Linden, also attended the conference from Troy University.

“LEI was a great experience,” Mack said. “This program provided me the assurance that I can achieve any of my goals, regardless of obstacles in my path.”

Each attendee must create three different projects over the course of eight months. These include advocacy, action and mentorship projects.

Scott’s advocacy project was “to advocate for higher campus involvement through the freshman pledge class of my sorority.”

“I’m raising money through the fraternities and sororities for a reading room and computer room for Open Gym at First Baptist of Troy,” Scott said in



Brenna Patrick photo

Shelby Scott regard to her action project.

Open gym is a program on Wednesday afternoons where Troy elementary school students come to First Baptist after school and get help with homework, play games and learn Bible stories.

“Poverty-stricken kids come and get much-needed attention,” Scott said. “It is a great volunteer opportunity.”

Scott is being mentored by Megan Carson, the director of Open Gym at First Baptist. Carson is helping Scott “with finding the best methods to raising money and how I should carry out my project,” Scott said.

Open Gym has become a priority in Scott’s life as she builds relationships with the children. It has also opened her eyes to the poverty of Pike County. This eye-opening experience is what made Scott want to focus on Open Gym for her action project.

On Feb. 22, Scott attended a banquet lunch for a shorter networking conference along with her graduation. “LEI is networking,” Scott said. “We will each sit at a table with people in our respective professions and get the chance to talk to them about what we want to do.”

Say WHAT?

The Tropolitan asked a random sampling of students the following question:

Did you vote in the SGA elections? Why or why not?



“I am voting in the SGA election. Having been in the SGA in high school, I understand that a lot happens behind the scenes. We want the best people to do these things so we as students don’t have to worry about more than we do already.”
— **Brigham Shellinger**, a sophomore political science major from Mobile.

“I don’t know. . . I guess I feel like I should? I don’t even know exactly what SGA is.”

— **Alex Tjoland**, a junior music industry major from Warner Robins, Georgia.



“Yes I did. Reason being because while there wasn’t a large body of candidates in each position, I do feel it necessary to both know and select who’s representing your school.”
— **Stephen Haye**, a senior hospitality, sport and tourism management major from Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

“No, because politics never really interested me and I believe that the people will make the right decisions.”

— **Ashley Buhl**, a senior marine biology major from Crestview, Florida.



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SGA seat designated for international student

Effort to ensure better representation and opportunities for Troy's diverse campus

Ngoc Vo
Opinion Editor

The push for a designated seat in the SGA for international students signals the first of many changes to assist this underrepresented group.

According to Darlene Schurr-Stewart, dean of international student services, the university serves approximately 760 international students on Troy's campus, constituting over 10 percent of the student body.

There are 44 senators in the SGA, according to Ryan Cole, a junior political science major from Athens and SGA clerk.

"There should be about three international students in the SGA," Schurr-Stewart said. "That representation makes sense to me."

Although the need for an international voice in the SGA may seem apparent in a representative system, efforts to address this need have been long overdue.

"For a long time we have known that we needed representation for international students in the SGA," said Cesar Jauregui, a senior broadcast journalism major from Pell City and president of the International Student Cultural Organization.

"Many people have the assumption that Pace Hall is a seat for international students, but it is a resident seat that both international students and domestic students can run for.

"I think it's shocking that Troy is known as the international university of Alabama but there isn't a voice in what is supposed to represent the student body," Jauregui said.

Jauregui said having at least one international student in the SGA would ensure that they would have someone to speak for them any time a bill is pushed to the floor.

According to Jonathan Lockwood, an international relations graduate student from Redding, California, and the SGA senator who sponsors the bill for an international seat, the bill has been met with some opposition from the Senate.

"The previous contention would have been that the international students have the ability to run for any seats in the colleges, residence halls or at-large seats," Lockwood said.

However, international students are in a disadvantaged position when it comes to campaigning.

"The international students don't have the knowledge or knowhow to be able to have a fair campaign against the American candidates," Lockwood said.

Many international students are in exchange programs and are only at Troy for one semester or one year.

International freshmen do not attend the same orientation as American students. Therefore, they don't have as many opportunities to broaden their network.

Moreover, incoming international students often arrive at Troy later in the semester than American students. After taking care of their paperwork and class registration, many may not have enough time to send in the application for an SGA position or to build up supporters on campus, Jauregui said.

Lockwood said the designated seat for international students serves many purposes.

"Not only can they run and win," Lockwood said, "but they can also begin interacting more and understanding American democracy better ... not so much to spread the ideals of democracy but to understand it for what it is and its benefits and the benefits of bringing cultures of all types together."

According to Lockwood, the bill was under revision "to make it more academic in nature and thus minimize or eradicate any potential contention."

The revised bill would clarify that the seat is for the international office, an academic component of the university. International students will run for the position the same way other students do for their respective colleges.

Jauregui said the designated seat would be the first step towards a cultural movement within the international students.

"It is clear to us having one seat in the SGA is not an end-all, be-all thing," he said. "Some students are not used to the voting system or representation like we have."

Jauregui said the seat would help some international students value voter participation and create momentum for their involvement.

"Eventually, there would be more competition for the one designated seat," he said. "And students will be more prepared to run for the at-large seats."

According to Jauregui, ISCO, in collaboration with Lockwood, decided to propose the seat in the format of a bill, using SGA preliminary procedures to avoid coming across as imposing and to show that they are truly part of the student body.

Next week during the SGA meeting, senators will vote on the revised bill. Schurr-Stewart said that even if the bill is passed, international influence will not come easily or quickly.

"Whoever gets elected should be engaged in the



Seth Nicholson

concerns of international students and be the pathway (of addressing) those concerns," she said. "The representative student should understand their mission and the need to reach out to American students."

Schurr-Stewart also said it was necessary for SGA to refocus its agendas.

As an international student who has served on the SGA, I feel issues on the SGA floor should be tailored to be more relevant to this group of the student body.

The support from a large group of people across campus for an international student seat is a moral encouragement for potential candidates.

Internships bring challenges and opportunities

Hannah Hartline
Staff writer

Students should take a leap of faith when it comes to pursuing their dreams.

Being a senior in college is certainly one of the more stressful situations I have ever been in. The end of college, for those students who have decided not to go to grad school by this point, looms inevitably like the light at the end of the tunnel.

Not only are we in the middle of some of the hardest classes we have taken in our lives, but also just looking at the prospect of being in the real world is enough to bring some seniors to their knees.

Internships happen to be just another bump in the road on the path to graduation, and it can be a wild ride.

Internships feel like the biggest obstacle to me because they are full of uncertainty. The process can be long or short, depending on the size of the company, and sometimes sending your résumé off to these companies feels like a trial before a judge and jury.

You have no idea what the company or individual is going to think of your application, and the waiting game can be torture.

The decisions seem slow and fast all at once, leaving some students feeling like they've just been through a whirlwind. Summer quickly approaches, and with every looming deadline, it seems like the options are closing in.

However, there is opportunity everywhere.

Slayton Scott, a junior business major from Panama City, Florida, found her in-



Peyton Flowers photo

Bethany Wilson, a senior broadcast journalism major from Elba, is doing her internship at RSVP magazine in Montgomery.

ternship with the company All Risks in Richmond, Virginia, thanks to a networking opportunity through her adviser.

"We went to the Birmingham Symposium, which is a job fair, and I met a lot of companies with the risk management and insurance industry and started talking with All Risks," Scott said. "I was

so nervous because I wanted it so bad, but after a lot of prayer and just relying on God and his plan, I got offered an early acceptance because I had another job offer."

She is expected to begin working with All Risks in summer 2015.

And while networking may be one of the

ways to get an internship, students might also consider nontraditional internships.

Haley Greathouse, a junior broadcast journalism and leadership double major from Eufaula, took a less standard internship than most. Greathouse is currently interning through the Disney College Program in Orlando, Florida, working in the Animal Kingdom Park as a Kilimanjaro Safari guide.

"The Disney College Program is a unique and challenging experience that for many is a stepping stone," Greathouse said. "The internships last between five and eight months depending on what you apply for and if you extend (the program)."

"That is a long time out of school, so you have to talk to teachers, advisers, any clubs you have offices in, and let them know that there is a possibility that you will not be back for the next semester."

Greathouse said that her experience during the Disney College Program would hopefully lead her to the next step of being offered a Disney Professional Internship, where she hopes to take a broadcast journalism position.

"Take that leap of faith," said Greathouse when asked for advice for other students. "It is worth it."

Scott also encouraged students to step outside their comfort zones.

"Apply for anything and everything," Scott said. "You never know what could come your way. Be positive and confident in your strengths."

"If you are having trouble, understand that failure is part of the process. You can't have success without some bumps in the road."

EDITORIAL POLICIES

As Troy University's official student newspaper, the Tropolitan strives to serve student interests. The Opinion page is an outlet for Tropolitan editors to question university policies that do not benefit Troy's students, praise those that do and call attention to national and state issues that relate to students. The opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of Troy University or the Hall School of Journalism and Communication.

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Guest Columns

The Tropolitan encourages students, faculty and staff at Troy University to express opinions in a guest column of

500-700 words. Dissenting opinions are welcomed, but all expressions are the sole opinion of their author and do not reflect the beliefs of the Tropolitan.

Letters to the Editor

The Tropolitan welcomes letters from students, faculty, staff and non-Troy affiliated persons. Dissenting opinions and corrections are welcomed.

The Tropolitan does not exclusively print letters fa-

vorable to the newspaper. Letters to the editor must be signed by the author, and a phone number must be included.

All submissions must be word-processed and emailed to the Tropolitan by 5 p.m. on Monday. All submissions may not be published.

Submissions bashing groups or individuals on the basis of race, gender, age, ethnic group, orientation or religious belief will not be printed.

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2,552 keys, 29 new Steinways



April Irvin photo

Hui-Ting Yang, an assistant professor of piano and coordinator of piano activities, is a Steinway Artist and one of only five in Alabama.



April Irvin photo

Jonathon Steinman spoke at the event, and he said that the pianos would recruit more students due to the Steinway piano brand.

Kianna Collins
Arts and Entertainment Editor

April Irvin
Photo Editor

Steinway pianos are some of the highest-quality pianos sold today, and Troy received 29 Steinway pianos on Monday, Feb. 23.

Troy University became a Steinway School, and Steinway Schools are defined as institutions that have only Steinways or Steinway-designed pianos such as Boston or Essex in their inventory.

The John M. Long School of Music hosted an event titled "A Star Spangled Celebration" on Tuesday, Feb. 24, in honor of the arrival of the pianos.

Troy University is one of five schools in Alabama that are considered Steinway schools, and it also one of 162 completely Steinway schools in the world. Troy University is 17th in the world to become a Steinway school featuring only Steinways.

"We started thinking about this three years ago," said Larry Blocher, dean of communication and fine arts. "And within the last year, we've really intensified our efforts."

To begin the process, Blocher had to find a Steinway partner, and found one in Birmingham. The Long School of Music had to talk to the administration to convince officials of the need to move forward with the project.

He said it was a team effort to get this project off the ground.

"We are accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, and one of the standards requires pianos of a certain quality," Blocher said.

Blocher said that having these pianos will benefit the community.

"The ramifications are huge, and we're

just getting started in that," Blocher said.

Blocher said that these pianos will attract more students to enroll at Troy, in combination with the faculty of the Long School of Music.

"Because I'm a piano student, I'm really really excited that we finally get the best instruments at Troy," said Jonathon Steinman, a senior music education major from New Hope.

"It was a remarkable experience for all of us," said Chancellor Jack Hawkins. "It will be a night we shall remember, probably forever, because of the significance and the quality that this purchase represents."

The outstanding balance of this purchase is \$750,000. This is after the purchase of 29 Steinway pianos, two of which are the first two Steinway Sterling Silver grand pianos.

Hawkins traveled to Long Island, New York, to visit the Steinway Gallery.

"The people at Steinway, the craftsmen ... there was longevity, there was pride," Hawkins said. "The pride that they took in creating these beautiful instruments was really encouraging."

Hawkins said that he felt that he was making an investment that would last a lifetime.

"It reflects the standard that we strive to achieve," Hawkins said. "We want our students to have the best. We want them to be the best."

Hawkins said in his speech at the event that the Steinway is the Rolls-Royce in the world of music.

"There are many brands of piano that we could have purchased that are far less in terms of financial investment," said Hawkins. "What we have experienced through the Steinway is that you really get what you paid for."

"Excellence is achieved one person at a time, and one instrument at a time."

Troy alumnus returns for stage production

Lacey Alexander
Staff Writer

The Troy Theatre and Dance Department will be welcoming one of its alumni for its spring main stage show.

"To Kill a Mockingbird," set to be performed in mid-April, will feature Danny Gilroy in the leading male role of Atticus, a lawyer assigned to a controversial case in a small Southern town.

Gilroy is a graduate of Troy University, and he studied under David Dye, professor emeritus of speech and theater, and earned his degree in theater in 1992.

Originally from New Jersey, Gilroy met his wife while studying at Troy and acted professionally after graduation. His work including productions at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

Gilroy can be seen on the walls of the lobby of the Trojan Center Theatre, in both production photos and his personal headshot that is displayed in honor of the accolades he received as a college student.

Tori Lee Averett, who is both the department chair and the director of "To Kill a Mockingbird," said the decision to cast an adult came down to the educational value of Gilroy's participation.

"Learning to work with people who

aren't just like you is very important," Averett said. "There's something to be learned from someone that's older. Danny has a maturity to his acting and his expectations."

Averett also said that she is confident that Gilroy is well fit for the role.

"He's a theater alum, he's a trained actor, he's of the right age," Averett said. "He brings life experience and acting experience to this role, which is really helping us flesh out the full life of Atticus."

He is now a pastor at Enterprise First United Methodist Church. Gilroy said he's enthusiastic about returning to the stage for the first time in a long time.

"I felt like I was called to something else... But I did miss it (acting)," Gilroy said. "Atticus is always a role I've wanted to play if the opportunity came up ... I knew the opportunity was there, and I got very excited."

Gilroy said the department has grown since his days as a student 20 years ago.

"It's bigger now, which is good to see," Gilroy said. "There's more technicians, there's more actors, and the dance department is involved."

Danny Gilroy will be sharing the stage with a cast of over 20 students, including his son, DJ Gilroy, a junior theater major

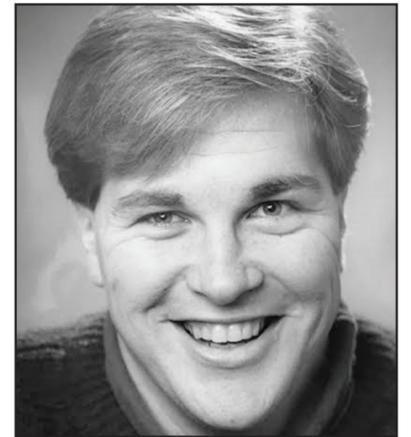
from Enterprise.

"We get to talk ... It's a common interest," said Danny Gilroy of his son's involvement in theater. "...He'll call me after I see a show he's in and say, 'Now that nobody's around, what did you really think?'"

"I knew the opportunity was there, and I got very excited."

DJ Gilroy, who plays Walter Cunningham in "To Kill a Mockingbird," said he is enthusiastic about working with his father, and said that Danny has inspired him and his acting since DJ was young.

"I think a lot of my influence comes from him because I saw him do so much when I was young," DJ Gilroy said. "I go home and I talk to him all the time about



Danny Gilroy

character work and stuff like that."

DJ said that he is learning a lot by working with his father.

"I never thought that I would actually be in the same show as my dad," Gilroy said. "I've noticed little things that he does as an actor that I also do when I act."

"To Kill a Mockingbird" will be in production from April 15 to April 19 in the Trojan Center Theatre.

Tickets will become available for purchase in mid-March.

2/27 - 3/5

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3D 7:10, 9:30

PG
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focus
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FEBRUARY 27
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

BUTLER COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
2015 TEACHER RECRUITMENT FAIRS

Are YOU who we're looking for?

The Butler County School System is looking for bright, motivated, and dedicated teachers who are prepared to provide inspirational leadership to children in their classroom and to raise achievement levels for every student.

The system will hold several on-site recruiting fairs beginning in March. Applicants will be able to interview with multiple administrators in one day for current or anticipated openings for the 2015-2016 school year.

When:
March 21st - 12:30-4:00 (Saturday)
7th-12th all subjects
April 25th - 12:30-4:00 (Saturday)
K-12th all subjects

Where:
Butler County Board of Education
Central Office Board Room
949 Oglesby Street
Greenville, Alabama 36037

Who:
New graduates and experienced educators are invited to attend.

To be considered for an interview, applicants must hold current Alabama teacher certification, be highly qualified, and have completed an application on-line through the Alabama State Department of Education's website, Teach in Alabama at www.alsde.edu. Participants are encouraged to bring resumes. All attempts will be made to accommodate walk-ins, but pre-registration is encouraged. Use the QR code included to register for one of the recruiting events. For additional information about the system visit www.butlerco.k12.al.us or call Litta Norris at (334)-382-2665 ext. 1208.

Reviving the art of moviemaking at Troy

Student organization begins cinematographic projects for other campus groups

Lewin Schmitt
Staff Writer

As the Academy Awards reminded viewers on Sunday, Hollywood is the mecca of movies. Nevertheless, it is not the only place where filmmaking happens.

Though the limited resources at the disposition of Troy's student community might not allow for the creation of the next "Birdman" or award-winning visual effects like "Interstellar," the Cinematography Society brings together film enthusiasts every week to engage in filmmaking.

According to Hayden Glass, a sophomore global business major from Dothan and president of the Cinematography Society, the organization existed years ago but was dissolved when all of its members graduated. Glass decided to revitalize the club last semester.

The Cinematography Society took on its first video project of 2015 last week in conjunction with the Wesley Foundation, a United Methodist campus ministry. The primary aim of the project is to give Wesley Foundation, and eventually other campus organizations, the means of presenting themselves in a high-quality motion picture.

For the promotion video, members of the Cinematography Society attended the Wesley Foundation's meetings, filming their Bible study and worship sessions and the foundation's weekly dinner event.

The volunteers of the Cinematography Society will also deal with the postproduction and editing of the video.

Elaine Brown, minister for the Wesley Foundation, said she regards the project as a big opportunity for her community to promote the program, not only on campus, but also toward local churches and congregations.

"I'm of course very excited to see the video," she said after the last day of shooting.

Members of the Cinematography Society said that this cooperation will



Lewin Schmitt photo

Benjamin Grider, a senior criminal justice major from Huntsville, shoots a band performing and attendees worshipping at the Wesley Foundation's weekly sessions.

not only benefit the Wesley Foundation, but also provide it with an opportunity to enhance its practical experience.

Vincent Rosec, a sophomore theater major from Saint-Lô, France, who was involved in camera work during the first day of shooting, said he values the opportunity to acquire an insight into the different steps of producing a movie.

"As an actor, I usually do not get to stand behind the camera, but I think it is important to know what the rest of the production team is doing," he said.

Currently, the group is planning on other projects in collaboration with other campus organizations. Student band POPulus, for instance, has approached the Cinematography Society, asking for support with producing a music clip.

"We are developing a new marketing campaign for the upcoming spring tour, and a music video will definitely enlarge our reach," said Jody Behre, a junior music industry major from The Hague, Netherlands, and the band's social media manager.

POPulus' third studio album is due to be released in the beginning of April, when the group is touring through the Southwest, in addition to a performance at Universal Studios in Orlando.

While the Cinematography Society's main focus for the upcoming weeks is on the production of an original short, it is always open for potential cooperation with other student organizations.

"We love having organizations ask us to help promote them by shooting

a short," said Adrienne McCall, a sophomore psychology major from Ashford and secretary of the Cinematography Society.

Furthermore, the organization is welcoming interested newcomers as well as skilled students who would want to become directly involved. Currently, around 20 members attend the meetings regularly.

"The Cinematography Society is a great way to get connected with other college students interested in the art of filmmaking," McCall said. "It's a place to learn and grow, and to realize your ideas."

The group meets every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Trojan Center Room 212.

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Trojans dominate the diamond

Wes Fortson
Staff Writer

The Trojan baseball team traveled to Pensacola, Florida, this past weekend for the Cox Diamond Invitational and won two out of the three games.

On Friday night, Feb. 20, Troy took on St. Louis in a tight pitching battle between Troy's freshman pitcher Corey Childress and the Billikens' junior pitcher Josh Moore, but could not pull out a win.

Childress was stellar in his start on Friday, throwing a no-hitter through the first four innings and allowing only one run on three hits in his seven innings.

"He threw well, and he dominated for really all of the game, and he gave up a run there at the end," said pitching coach Brad Phillips. "He's been about as close to perfect as you can be at this point, especially considering that he's a freshman."

The first four innings were slow for both sides. The Trojans were unsuccessful at bringing in a run in the fifth and left one stranded on base.

After a three-up, three-down seventh inning for the Trojan bats, St. Louis struck.

Senior designated hitter Colton Frabasilio singled up the middle with two outs, and junior catcher Jake Henson doubled down the line in left field to score Frabasilio.

Troy answered back in the top of the eighth with some help from senior first baseman Trevin Hall and redshirt junior catcher Tripp Calhoun.

In the bottom of the eighth, the Trojans made a call to the bullpen for some relief from sophomore pitcher Marc Skinner.

Skinner knocked out the Billikens in the eighth inning, including two strikeouts, but in the bottom of the ninth, he allowed two hits and a walk. Skinner also hit a batter.

With junior third baseman Braxton Martinez on second, Henson hit a walk-off single for St. Louis to win the

game, 2-1.

Saturday afternoon, Feb. 21, the Trojans had a tight standoff against North Florida, which had beaten Southern Miss the night before.

In the second inning, North Florida took an early lead, but junior pitcher Grant Bennett kept his composure.

By the bottom of the seventh, Troy had figured out its offense enough to bring around two runs.

Junior third baseman Bert Givens and senior center fielder Clay Holcomb were the only ones to cross home plate, however.

Fortunately for the Trojans, after leaving three on base in the seventh, their two runs were enough to bring home the 2-1 win.

Sunday, Feb. 22, was a big day of offense for Troy against the Nicholls State Colonels, as it won the game 10-2.

Despite a lackluster start to the season for sophomore pitcher Tucker Simpson last weekend, the coaches picked him for the start on Sunday.

"Tucker made a couple adjustments during the week that I think helped him," Phillips said. "He looked a little bit more competitive and comfortable being out there."

In the top of the first, Troy came out with its bats on fire.

The two-out, five-run rally was sparked by a single from junior right fielder Logan Hill and was followed up by a number of Trojans to bring the score to 5-0.

In the second inning, Troy tacked on another run with an RBI single from Givens that scored Masonia from third.

Simpson held it together through the first and second innings, but allowed Nicholls senior catcher Christian Correa to hit an RBI single that scored sophomore center fielder Justin Holt in the bottom of the third.

Luckily, the Trojans answered back in the fourth when freshman left fielder Reid Long hit a sacrifice fly to center field and



Joshua Thurston photo

Senior center fielder Clay Holcomb had two hits out of four at-bats against Nicholls State. He also had one run and one RBI in the game against the Colonels on Sunday, Feb. 22.

scored Hill, bringing the score to 7-1.

In the bottom of the fourth inning, junior designated hitter Marc Frazier led off with a solo home run to right field for the Colonels, but Simpson stuck it out for the Trojans and finished out the fourth and fifth innings strong.

"It's going to be a continued process for him because he hasn't really pitched in a year, so he's getting healthy and he's showed signs of moving in the right direction as he did on Saturday," Phillips said.

Four relief pitchers came in after Simpson, and each relief pitcher put in an inning to make it a team effort as Troy took down the Colonels.

Troy finished the game with 18 hits, which is the most since last season when Troy played Georgia State on March 30.

"I felt like we looked a little more comfortable in our second weekend out, and to be on the road for the first time I was happy to see that," said head coach Bobby Pierce.

After its second weekend out and only allowing five runs this weekend, Troy's pitching staff is leading the Sun Belt Conference with a 1.72 ERA.

Troy played Samford on Tuesday, Feb. 24, and shut out the Bulldogs 6-0.

The Trojans will be back in action at home against Southern Mississippi on Friday, Feb. 27.

Women's team clinches Sun Belt seed

Wally Pendergrass
Staff Writer

The Troy women's basketball team extended its winning streak to five games, knocking off conference leader UALR, while junior guard Ashley Beverly-Kelley earned both conference and national awards.

Beverly-Kelley was named Sun Belt Conference Player of the Week and was also named National Mid-Major Player of the Week by CollegeSportsMadness.com, on Monday, Feb. 24.

Beverly-Kelley averaged 34.5 points per game during the week, including dropping 46 points on Georgia Southern.

Her 46 points are the most by any player in Division I this season.

The Trojans ended up needing every one of Beverly-Kelley's points against the Eagles. The Eagles gave Troy their best and pushed the Trojans to overtime, but Troy came away with the victory 99-93.

Sophomore forward Caitlyn Ramirez pushed the game into overtime by making an offensive rebound and scored the tying bucket at the end of regulation.

Senior forward Ronita Garrett took over in overtime, scoring

three of the Trojans' four field goals. Garrett finished the game with her 17th double-double, scoring 25 points and grabbing 17 rebounds.

Besides her 46 points, Beverly-Kelley hit all but one of Troy's three-point shots, while Ramirez scored nine points and grabbed 11 rebounds.

The win secured a berth in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament and also guaranteed the Trojans a winning season, the first since 2008-2009.

However, the Trojans weren't finished for the week. On Saturday, Feb. 21, Troy wanted to prove that UALR shouldn't be the only feared Trojans in the Sun Belt this season.

Troy was down by 10 at halftime, 35-25, but rallied in the second half and came away with a win 65-62.

Beverly-Kelley scored 23 points, which is the seventh time in eight games that she has posted over 20 points.

Garrett again had a double-double, her 18th of the year, scoring 17 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Garrett scored 13 of her points in the second half.

The Trojans used four free throws to clinch the game — a pair from Beverly-Kelley and

a pair from junior guard Lacey Buchanon, who scored 11 points in the game.

"It was a great win in Trojan Arena today," said head coach Chanda Rigby. "To beat such a fine team as UALR, it was a great underdog story, you could say."

The win snapped UALR's six-game winning streak and is only its second loss in conference play.

"We really didn't play like underdogs today," Rigby said. "The maturity of our team was a big difference in this game."

The Trojans currently sit third in the Sun Belt with three games left on their schedule.

The Trojans have locked up at least the fifth seed in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament and can almost lock up the third seed with a win on Thursday, Feb. 26, against Texas State.

The Trojans will travel to San Marcos, Texas, and will try to avenge a 74-72 loss against the Bobcats.

The Trojans will play their final home game on Feb. 28 in Trojan Arena against Georgia State.

The Trojans took down the Panthers 96-87 earlier in the season.



Jennifer Carlisle photo

Senior guard Aissata Maiga (above) scored six points and made five rebounds during the Georgia Southern game. Junior guard Ashley Beverly-Kelley scored 46 points during the game. Troy won 99-93 in overtime.

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Troy humbles the Huskies

Ty Ammons
Staff Writer

The Trojan softball team had an amazing 4-1 home series this past weekend at the Trojan Invitational.

The team won its first game 6-5 against the University of Connecticut Huskies on Friday, Feb. 20. The starting pitchers were junior Sara Mock for Troy and sophomore Kayla Doty for the Huskies.

The Huskies got the first run of the game in the top of the third inning off a home run from sophomore first baseman Dominique Pinto. Troy responded, scoring two runs in the bottom of the third.

Junior catcher Hannah Day doubled to score senior left fielder Chelsea Eytel, and then senior first baseman Michelle Phelps singled up the middle to score Day.

The Huskies retaliated by scoring four runs in the top of the sixth inning. Mock walked two batters with the bases loaded to give the Huskies two runs.

Junior shortstop Lexi Gifford hit a sacrifice fly to score the Huskies' fourth run of the game and then sophomore second baseman Taylor Townsend singled to score the Huskie's fifth run of the game. Troy scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. Junior third baseman Khadija Neely singled to score sophomore second baseman Becca Hartley, and Eytel lined out to right field to score junior right fielder Amanda Winters.

In the seventh inning, the Trojans tied the game up with a single by Winters to score Phelps.

The Trojans won the game the eighth inning with a walk-off single by Phelps to score Eytel. Phelps went 3-5 at the plate with two RBIs.

Troy played the Northern Illinois University Huskies on that Friday as well, and Troy beat them 5-4. The starting pitchers were junior Ashley Rainey for Troy and senior Jessica Sturm for Northern Illinois.

Troy drew first blood with two runs in the first inning. Hartley hit into a double play to score junior shortstop Kate

Benton. Winters singled up the middle to score Day.

The Huskies made a strong rally, though, scoring four runs in the fourth inning. Sophomore right fielder Rebecca Rupard hit in their first run on single to score junior catcher Emily Naegele.

Sophomore shortstop Kali Kossakowski and junior center fielder Caitlyn Warren both singled to put across two more runs. Kossakowski scored on a fielding error by senior pitcher Jaycee Affeldt.

In the fifth inning, the Trojans scored when Winters fouled out to score Day. In the seventh inning, Phelps homered to tie the game 4-4. The Trojans won it in the eighth inning on a walk-off hit by Day to score Affeldt.

Troy played Northern Illinois again on Saturday, Feb. 21. The Trojans lost 6-5. The starting pitchers were Mock and freshman Tara Thacker.

Northern Illinois scored first when freshman catcher Bekah Harnish singled to score Warren, and freshman shortstop Alaynie Woollard tripled to score Harnish and sophomore first baseman Kayti Grable.

Troy struck back in the second inning with three runs. It started with a single by freshman center fielder Carli Kayler to score Winters.

Day singled up the middle to score Eytel and junior designated player Heather Johnston. The Trojans scored another run in the third inning off a double by Kayler to score Neely.

Northern Illinois scored three runs in the seventh to win the game. Warren doubled to score Rupard, Grable singled to score Warren. Naegele reached on a fielder's choice to score senior designated player Kristyn Barrett.

The Trojans played the University of Connecticut once more later that day. The Trojans ended the game in the fifth inning 10-0. The starting pitchers were Affeldt and freshman Chelsea Eckert.

The Trojans started by scoring two runs in the second inning. Day singled to score Affeldt and Kayler.

Troy scored three more runs in the third. Kayler reached on a dropped fly



Jennifer Carlisle photo

Junior third baseman Khadija Neely hit a single in the game against University of Connecticut on Friday, Feb. 20, to score sophomore second baseman Becca Hartley. Troy won the game 6-5.

ball by the left fielder to score Affeldt, and Benton singled to score Kayler and freshman designated player Erica Davis.

In fourth inning, Hartley flied out to score Phelps. In the fifth inning, Phelps singled to score Kayler, and Winters homered to score Benton and Phelps. Benton went 4-4 at the plate with two RBIs.

Troy played the Evansville Purple Aces on Sunday, Feb. 22. The Trojans won 3-1. The starting pitchers were Rainey and junior Amanda Blankenship.

The Trojans scored in the first inning when Phelps flied out to score Benton.

Evansville responded by scoring one

run in the fourth inning. Sophomore left fielder Chandra Parr grounded out to score senior shortstop Abbi Fahse.

Troy scored two runs in the sixth inning to clinch the game. Hartley scored on an error when pinch hitter sophomore Meg Willis grounded out.

Redshirt freshman Allison Moore pinch ran for Affeldt and scored off a double from Kayler. Kayler went 2-3 with one RBI.

The softball team's next game is on Friday, Feb. 27, in DeLand, Florida, against Alabama State in the Stetson Classic.

Court-Approved Supplemental Information About The Deepwater Horizon Economic Settlement Claim Deadline



June 8, 2015 – Deadline to File

Claim(s) with the Deepwater Horizon (BP) Economic Settlement Program

The Class Settlement and its objective, financial data based causation tests have been approved by final judgment.

If you reside or have a business in the map above, you have the right to file a claim.

If you submit a claim form and all required information and meet the formulas as approved by the Courts, you qualify for an award.

Not every claim filed will be eligible, but you have the right to file and find out.

The June 8, 2015 Deadline will NOT be extended

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